

NATIONAL CONGRESS BULLETIN

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Dear Local Presidents:

BY the time this message reaches you, I shall be in Caracas, Venezuela, attending the Ninth Pan American Child Congress, which convenes in that city on January 5-10, 1948. Because of its long-term interest in all children everywhere, the National Congress was one of several national organizations invited by the U.S. Children's Bureau to send an individual representative to this meeting, which is held only once every five

After the Child Congress adjourns, I shall go by plane on January 11 to Balboa in the Canal Zone, where the parent-teacher movement is rapidly gaining momentum. Recently the Elementary Balboa P.T.A., which was organized with 83 charter members, sent dues for 134 additional members. Now the Balboa Senior High School P.T.A. is planning to become a Congress unit, and since its membership drive coincides with the dates of my visit, I hope to give its members whatever information and counsel they may wish to have.

Other stops in my itinerary include Guatemala City, Antigua, and Chichicastenango, all in Guatemala; and Merida, the capital of Yucatan, Mexico. Then I shall be winging home once more, happy to have had this opportunity to learn at first hand some of the problems and accomplishments of our neighbors to the south.

Looking Ahead to 1950. On January 28-30 I shall be attending the meeting of the National Commission on Children and Youth in Washington, D. C., where initial plans for the 1950 White House Conference on Children and

be discussed.

National Health Conference.

Then on February 16-19 the National Congress will hold a national health conference in Chicago, at which state presidents and state chairmen of health will be present. An entire evening session will be devoted to a discussion of health legislation at both national and state levels. At the fall Board meeting, the Board of Managers voted to initiate and sponsor a specific bill to provide basic health services for all communities, fol-



Mrs. L. W. Hughes

lowing our adopted policies regarding the allotment of federal funds (see "Additions to Legislation Program," page 2). This proposed legislation will be discussed at the health conference, and it is hoped that

a good bit of progress on the undertaking will have been made by February.

Life Memberships to President and Mrs. Harry S. Truman.

At its fall meeting in Washington, D. C., in November the Board took official action authorizing the issuing of National Congress life memberships to President and Mrs. Truman. Accordingly, these were formally presented at the White House tea on November 12. Mrs. Truman's gracious reply is reproduced on this page.

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I am deeply grateful for the many Christmas greetings that found their way to my mailbox during the holiday season. May each and every parent-teacher member enjoy the blessings of a serene and fruitful New Year.

Faithfully yours,

Mabel W. Hughes

Mabel W. Hughes
President
National Congress of Parents and Teachers

NATIONAL CONGRESS CONVENTION

Cleveland, Ohio

May 24, 25, and 26, 1948

The Statler Hotel will be the official headquarters for our fifty-first convention. Meetings will be held in Cleveland's modern municipal auditorium.

A large delegation is expected. It is a legitimate use of P.T.A. funds—at state, district, council, and local levels—to pay for all or part of a delegate's expenses to this important parent-teacher meeting.

years. We also felt that our attendance would be a valuable means of promoting, at a national level, the *world understanding* objectives of our own Four-Point Program. The exchange of opinion that always characterizes such an international gathering is stimulating and helpful. Moreover, the four fields selected for special emphasis at the meeting are of particular interest to the parent-teacher organization: (1) pediatrics and maternal health; (2) social welfare and legislation; (3) education; and (4) inter-American cooperation.

Youth will

National Health Conference.

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ADDITIONS TO 1947-48 LEGISLATION PROGRAM

• By action of the national Board of Managers on November 13, 1947, the following items were added to the legislation program for 1947-48:

Under "Policies"

Recreation

We recommend increased public support for adequate community recreation services.

We encourage the support of state agencies authorized to assist local governments in setting up recreation programs.

Under "Active Program"

Health

We support legislation to assist the states in the development and maintenance of local health units as provided in the proposed "Local Health Unit Act of 1948."

(This act will provide for the development and maintenance of local health units organized to provide basic full-time public health services and to assist the states in the training of personnel for local health work. Allotment of funds is to be made on the basis of population and the financial need of the states to provide basic health services for all persons within the state. The basic health services necessary for the well-being of every community are: control of communicable disease, environmental and food sanitation, health education, collection and analysis of vital statistics, public health laboratory services, and maternal and child health services.)

Under "Recommendations for State Congresses"

Correlating Efforts for Child Welfare Legislation

To facilitate and correlate efforts to effect legislation for child welfare within the states, the Board of Managers recommends that state congresses work for the establishment of an official and appropriate state commission or council representative of official state agencies and state organizations concerned with the welfare of children and youth.

Membership cards are distributed from the state congress office—not from the National Office.

Founders Day pamphlets have been distributed. If you haven't received your copy, please get in touch with your state congress office.

OUR BIG TEN TOPPERS!

From now until May the *Bulletin* will carry each month a list that will show the standings of the various state congresses as they continue to pile up subscriptions to the *National Parent-Teacher*. Here are the latest figures available: *Ten states showing greatest gain in subscriptions for the period April 1 through October 31, 1947:*

1. Illinois	1513
2. Ohio	1212
3. Alabama	884
4. Iowa	732
5. Oregon	653
6. Florida	636
Missouri	636
7. Texas	529
8. Pennsylvania	527
9. Louisiana	459
10. Washington	404

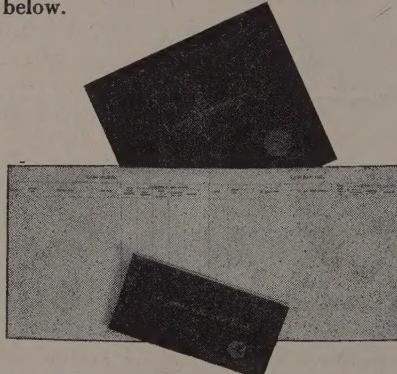
Ten states sending in the most subscriptions for the period April 1 through October 31, 1947:

1. Illinois	6248
2. Ohio	4588
3. Iowa	3649
4. Alabama	3639
5. Missouri	3274
6. Texas	3250
7. California	3137
8. New Jersey	2919
9. Pennsylvania	2727
10. Indiana	2679

ARE YOU HELPING YOUR STATE CONGRESS TO BE "IN THE RUNNING"?

TOOLS FOR TREASURERS

A good workman can always do a good job if he has the right kind of tools. High on the list of tools that a P.T.A. treasurer will find indispensable are the new cash record account book and accompanying receipt book. This set of convenient time savers is pictured below.



The record book may be used for several years, and each receipt book contains fifty receipt forms. Both may be obtained by sending \$1.25 to the state office. Extra receipt books may be purchased for ten cents each.

Keep your P.T.A. financial figures in up-to-date accessible form by using these practical aids to better record keeping.

Resolution . . .

ADOPTED BY NATIONAL BOARD OF MANAGERS

• The following resolution was adopted on November 13 at the fall meeting of the Board of Managers in Washington, D. C.:

BE IT HEREWITH RESOLVED that the National Congress of Parents and Teachers commend the President of the United States and the leaders of both parties in Congress for their vigorous attention to the needs of war-torn countries of Europe and Asia; and be it further

Resolved, that it urge the Congress of the United States to work out a sound and practical plan by which America may extend the necessary aid without impairing the strength of our own nation; and be it further

Resolved, that the National Congress of Parents and Teachers urge all its state branches, local units, and individual members (1) to promote in every way possible the extension of information and understanding among the American people regarding the conditions in war-torn countries, of their needs for survival and recovery, and of the relationship of those needs to the peace and welfare of the world; and (2) to give every possible assistance to the government's program through which the American people may help to feed, clothe, and rehabilitate the people—and especially the children and teachers—of war-blighted areas.

A Visitor from Norway

Among recent visitors at the National Office was Anna Margretta Hanssen, principal of Dragefjellet Skole, an elementary school in Bergen, Norway. Miss Hanssen has been in the United States since July on a scholarship granted in recognition of her work with the underground in behalf of Norwegian teachers. During her stay she has visited many schools and colleges, comparing their practices and equipment with those of her own country. She was particularly impressed with the outstanding achievements of our American P.T.A.'s, since in Norway there is no comparable organization seeking to coordinate the efforts of parents and teachers.

When Miss Hanssen sails for home this month she will be taking a number of Congress publications with her, for she is deeply interested in the parent-teacher movement. She was especially eager to subscribe to the *National Parent-Teacher* and hopes that with its help she may be instrumental in organizing parent-teacher groups for the benefit of Norway's children.



WHAT OUR CONGRESS PARENT-TEACHER GROUPS *Are Doing*

Keeping Youngsters Busy

Window breaking and other destructive mischief on the part of the children who attend Edgewood Elementary School in Edgewood, Maryland, is not much of a problem any more. That is because the P.T.A. decided to concentrate on projects that would keep the youngsters busy with wholesome, energetic group activities.

Situated in a housing project near Edgewood Arsenal twenty miles from the nearest village, the elementary school did not have a playground, a recreation program, or a school lunch program. But under the guidance of Mrs. T. Carson Phifer, local president, some outstanding things have been accomplished in just one short year.

Aided by the children themselves, the P.T.A. established a playground as an outlet for buoyant young spirits and energetic bodies. The community building on the school grounds, formerly used only once a month, is now open each day to provide some form of group activity. There are ballet classes, a hobby shop, a reading and game room, a "big boys' club," an adult study group.

Then, too, although the school board felt that the school was too small to manage a hot lunch successfully, the P.T.A. now serves a hot lunch in the community building each day to more than one third of the total school enrollment. Teachers report that the children are showing gratifying gains in weight and greater alertness in class. What is more, truancy is decreasing, and the P.T.A. members feel sure it is because the youngsters don't want to miss that fine hot meal at noon!



This hobby shop under the supervision of the Edgewood P.T.A. is a popular spot for youngsters in the Edgewood Elementary School.

P.T.A. Notes from Afar

The Camp Hakata American School, Kyushu, Japan, has a newly formed P.T.A. that started with 21 charter members. Another new association is the Palmer Territorial School P.T.A. in Palmer, Alaska, which in November sent dues for 85 members. There are now five Congress units in Alaska—Anchorage, Juneau, Ketchikan, Palmer, and Seward—that have a total membership of more than five hundred parents and teachers.

Progress Brings Pleasure

Feeling that it pays to pause occasionally and evaluate what has been done, the Belfrey Parent-Teacher Association, Belfrey, Kentucky, found its task a gratifying one. A survey of goals attained under the leadership of A. J. Manning, local president, resulted in the following list of accomplishments:

- A practical lunchroom in regular operation serving 350 lunches daily.
- A minimum of five suitable library books for each child enrolled in all grades.
- Scientifically planned lighting and fresh paint in all grade rooms.
- A Blood Register that donated three emergency transfusions in the first week of its existence.
- More subscriptions to the *National Parent-Teacher* and the *Kentucky Parent-Teacher* than ever before.
- The sponsoring of an active Boy Scout troop.

Catherine Hendricks, publicity chairman, adds that a program is under way to provide a more adequate water supply for the school and to replace the antiquated stoves with steam heat. "We feel that we are demonstrating the results possible when willing minds, hands, and hearts cooperate under planned leadership," she concludes.

**THE P.T.A. RADIO PROGRAM
IS ON THE AIR EVERY
SATURDAY**

- Time—12:30 p.m., C.S.T.
- Over NBC Stations

DON'T FORGET TO LISTEN!

Paving the Way to Kindergarten

Parents of children who entered kindergarten this fall at the Lafayette School in Highland Park, New Jersey, are especially grateful for the efficient Summer Round-Up committee of their local P.T.A. The committee did more than show a concern for the physical well-being of the children; it also helped to pave the way for their entrance into kindergarten.

In a personal letter from the P.T.A. chairman early in the spring, the parents were told what certificates and proofs of age they needed to bring with them in order to enroll their children in the school. Later, on arriving for the children's health checkup, the parents were given copies of a list compiled by the kindergarten teacher of habits helpful to little children trying to adjust to school life.

The P.T.A. committee also arranged to have the teacher herself on hand to answer the parents' questions and to make the acquaintance of her pupils for the coming year.

Founders Day Pageant a Hit

The First Day at the Crossroads School is always momentous as portrayed in "The Tale of Three Letters," one of our Founders Day pageants. This pageant was presented by the Bowling Green Council of P.T.A.'s in Bowling Green, Kentucky, on the fiftieth anniversary of the National Congress, and it received warm praise from all who saw it.

The occasion was particularly significant because A. L. Crabb, who wrote the pageant, was present and, following the pageant, gave a short talk entitled "How Dear to My Heart." Dr. Crabb, who is professor of education at George Peabody College in Nashville, is an old friend to *National Parent-Teacher* readers who have long enjoyed his delightful Plum Springs stories.

(Continued on page 4)

Humes High P.T.A. Has 361 Subscribers

Mrs. H. L. Dellinger, Magazine chairman of the Humes High School P.T.A., Memphis, Tennessee, has forwarded 361 subscriptions to *National Parent-Teacher: The P.T.A. Magazine*. If anyone anywhere has a better record than she has, we have yet to hear of it!

(Continued from page 3)

Councils Conduct House-to-House Health Canvass

If anyone were to ask Pennsylvania's Erie County Council and Erie City Council of P.T.A.'s what they had done to promote the *health* area of the Four-Point Program, they would certainly not lack for an answer. For these two councils recently helped to conduct a chest X-ray survey of more than a hundred thousand adult residents of Erie County.

Sponsoring groups for the mass survey were the Erie County Health and Tuberculosis Association and the Pennsylvania Department of Health, both of whom realized that a house-to-house canvass would be necessary, if all adults were to be persuaded that the X rays were necessary. Inasmuch as the county covered 725 square miles and had a population close to 190,000, such a canvass would require the assistance of a large, well-organized group covering both city and county. It didn't take long for those in charge to realize that only one organization could qualify—the P.T.A.!

Mrs. Robert Faber, city council president, and Mrs. Walter Eades, county council president, readily agreed to cooperate, and two general chairmen were appointed: Mrs. William Roberge for the city council and Mrs. Fred Clark for the county council. These two chairmen met with the director of the X-ray survey and learned what the duties of the P.T.A.'s would be. Then everybody went to work!

When the survey was completed, 101,462 adults had been reached. This impressive total was due in large part to the 2,003 P.T.A. members who had contributed a total of 11,045 hours of time to various phases of the project, as follows:

- 93 members gave a total of 1,190 hours of clerical help at the various units.
- 20 members gave 440 hours of clerical help at the central office.
- 234 members contributed 1,854 hours of service as hostesses.
- 1,656 members spent 7,561 hours conducting the house-to-house canvass.

With such a record, it is quite understandable that Dr. Herman E. Hilleboe, Assistant Surgeon General of the U.S. Public Health Service, saw fit to write a special letter expressing to all who helped in Erie County his "congratulations on a nice piece of work." And in submitting her report of the survey, Mrs. A. R. Pratt, publicity chairman of the Pennsylvania Congress, adds: "The choosing by the sponsoring groups of the parent-teacher associations to do this big job is a happy commentary on the high regard in which our great organization is held by the general public."



These parents, teachers, school administrators, and faculty members are listening to a panel of high school students discussing home-school relations at a recent parent-teacher workshop conference held on the University of Nebraska campus at Lincoln.

P.T.A. Booth Wins Honors

The Jefferson County Council of Parents and Teachers in Alabama won honors at a recent fair for an attractive booth portraying the work of the P.T.A.

On a low table were arranged small figures of boys and girls engaged in various P.T.A. activities. There was, for instance, a safety patrol boy holding a stop sign. Then there were slides and school swings (fashioned from wire coat hangers) placed on a tray of sand to

represent a playground. A miniature lunchroom was furnished with a toy stove, a refrigerator, tables, and a food counter. Spools covered with green modeling clay served as lunchroom stools, and there were even tiny trays made from tin foil. Little clothespin dolls were busy in the lunchroom and frolicking on the playground.

As a background, framed pictures of Alice McLellan Birney and Phoebe Apperson Hearst occupied places of honor on each side of a large reproduction of the Objects, and two baby oak trees were placed in large pots flanking the tables.

Mrs. Harvey Emerson, former council president, gives credit for the idea to Mrs. N. B. Breland, District I chairman of the council, and gratefully acknowledges the assistance of many other helpers including a Girl Scout troop under the leadership of Mrs. F. G. Hamner.

AMERICAN BROTHERHOOD WEEK—FEBRUARY 22-29

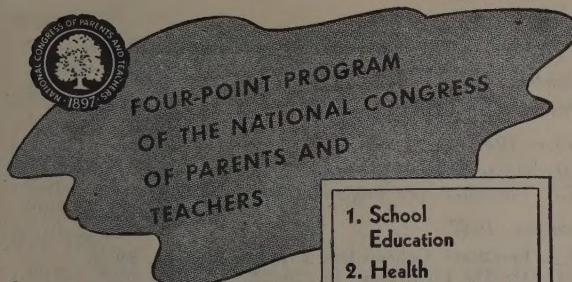
One excellent way to promote the area of *world understanding* in our Four-Point Program is that of cooperating with the National Conference of Christians and Jews in the annual observance of American Brotherhood Week. The week of Washington's Birthday, February 22-29 has been set aside in 1948 for emphasis on the brotherhood of man, and this year the theme repeats its 1947 message: "Brotherhood—Pattern for Peace."

Radio scripts, school programs, plays and pageants, suggested editorials, and other materials are available from the National Conference of Christians and Jews, 381 Fourth Avenue, New York 16, New York.

NATIONAL CONGRESS BULLETIN

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FOUR-POINT PROGRAM OF THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS

1. School Education
2. Health
3. World Understanding
4. Parent and Family Life Education

SAFETY

School Education

If we are to have more and better safety education it becomes a community responsibility to support the school financially. P.T.A.'s must assume their share of the responsibility for interpreting the needs and overcoming the barriers. And the school must be responsible for systematic instruction in all aspects of safety. In other words, to the three R's of education we must add the three E's of safety: education, enforcement, engineering.

Through parent education we ourselves must learn all we need to know about safety and, in turn, teach our children how to conduct themselves safely in the home, in traffic, and at school.

Health

Healthful living is next door to safe living; safety cannot be separated from health. And in recent years health and safety have come to be regarded as our most valuable resources. The toll of accidental deaths among children represents an extremely serious health problem—one which the school is best equipped to solve.

World Understanding

We must realize that obeying safety rules does not interfere with our individual freedom. On the contrary, such obedience makes each of us more free. We should think very carefully about what freedom means, because freedom is very important to everyone in the United States. Yet we cannot be free when there are still wars in the world. We talk about freedom from accidents, about communities free from all hazards, but we cannot hope to achieve better world understanding unless and until all fears of hazards to children are eliminated. In other words, a safe environment will be conducive to bringing people closer together. Let us remember that the hazards children face all over the world are quite like those we face here at home. In our P.T.A.'s we have people of different nationalities. Why not invite them to tell us about safety in their native lands?

Parent and Family Life Education

Home safety means better home life. In reality, safety enters into the study of every phase of home and family life, including housing, food, and clothing. During 1946, the number of deaths from home accidents totaled 33,000. Of these, 6,000 were children under 5 years old. Equally shocking are the 1,450 deaths from mechanical suffocation, of which 90 per cent were babies less than a year old. Nearly 7,000 boys and girls between the ages of 5 and 14

SUGGESTIONS FROM OUR NATIONAL CHAIRMEN

Each month several of our national chairmen will offer suggestions for promoting the Four-Point Program. These suggestions should be passed on immediately to the corresponding local chairman as well as to the local Four-Point Program committee. State chairmen, too, are in a strategic position to show how local committees can build unified P.T.A. programs that will bring the full effort of all workers to bear directly on the development of this nation-wide program.

lose their lives each year from accidents. On the registers of 47 states, 7,500 children were crippled because of severe burns and 21,000 because of other injuries, including severe and complicated fractures. P.T.A.'s should cooperate with state and local health agencies and with all types of groups, professional and nonprofessional, in setting up community surveys and campaigns to prevent home accidents.

—Mrs. L. K. Nicholson

NATIONAL PARENT-TEACHER: THE P.T.A. MAGAZINE

FOUR-POINT PROGRAM REFERENCES

1. School Education

September 1946

What's Happening in Education? Pp. 28-29.
MacArthur and the U.S. Education Mission to Japan.
Pp. 22-24.

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What's Happening in Education? P. 25.

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Straight Talk About the School Crisis. Pp. 30-32.
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Our Schools in Action: Let's Catch Up. Pp. 19-21.
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2. Health**September 1946**

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Health Comes First. Pp. 31-32.

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Social Hygiene—A Genuine Need. Pp. 32-33.

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The Health of the Nation. Pp. 7-9.

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Recovering from Rheumatic Fever. Pp. 25-27.

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Closing the Gates on Communicable Disease. Pp. 17-19.

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3. World Understanding**October 1946**

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You Are a Person Among People. Pp. 10-12.
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—Mrs. James Fitts Hill

Need We Worry About Juvenile Delinquency?

JUVENILE delinquency isn't something that is "across the tracks" in the next county, the next town, or the next school. It exists in every school and in each community surrounding that school, to a greater or lesser degree. Therefore every P.T.A. has an obligation to check the conditions that make for juvenile delinquency in its particular locality.

After all, delinquency isn't something that springs up full-blown overnight! It grows. It comes in part from home conditions and in part from influences in the community, conditions and influences that, in turn, spring from the indifference of parents, teachers, and other townspeople. No one solution can be singled out on a national scale and presented to our local associations as "the thing to do" in curbing juvenile delinquency.

In planning for the best development of our children, we, as parents and teachers, are accustomed to take into consideration the fact that "what affects my child affects your child"—and vice versa—in this complicated, complex world of today. Ways of combating juvenile delinquency are readily discernible—if they are only looked for. The main thing is to overcome the lethargy causing us to do the easy and the obvious—namely, just talking about the "terrible increase in juvenile delinquency" and letting it go at that!

Of course, one parent or teacher, singlehanded, cannot combat all the outside influences that lead children into trouble, but if parents and teachers will combine their strength in the P.T.A., they can do something in each community. Similarly, one local unit cannot stem the mounting wave of divorce and

broken homes. Yet by banding together in councils, districts, regions, state congresses, and the National Congress, concerted action can be taken. And the efforts of your council, your district, your region, your state congress, and your National Congress are just as strong—OR AS WEAK—as your determination to find the causes of juvenile delinquency in your own community and to do something about them!

FRANCES MATOFSKY, Member of the Committee To Make Recommendations on Follow-Up of National Conference on the Prevention and Control of Juvenile Delinquency

Can You Plant a Garden?

President Truman has requested all organizations to continue their vigorous efforts to support the food conservation program by urging all who can do so to plan a home garden for the coming spring. In a recent speech, Charles F. Brannan, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, makes this point: "We cannot actually grow wheat in our home gardens, but we can accomplish the same thing. By substituting home-grown and home-preserved foods for part of our usual purchases of cereals products, we are in a very real sense 'producing' more wheat for export."

This Bulletin is issued monthly—except during August—to all members of the national Board of Managers, to 28,000 P.T.A. presidents, and to more than 6,000 other subscribers. Association presidents are urged to circulate it widely among other officers and chairmen.

THE MARCH OF DIMES

One way of promoting the health area of the Four-Point Program is for every individual parent-teacher member to cooperate with organizations that are carrying on campaigns against dread disease. The March of Dimes is one such commendable drive. Is there a single P.T.A. member who could find it in his heart to turn down an appeal for a dime—for many dimes, if need be—that helpless children may walk again? Surely, there is not even one! Therefore let your purse be as open as your heart when the March of Dimes starts down the Main Street of your town.

**THINK OF THE HUNGRY...**

Waste no food!

Everyone wants to know what he personally can do to save the peace. This is the answer: We can all save food.

Saving food in today's pinched world means far more than thrift; it means saving lives. That, in turn, means saving the peace, for hungry men are easily misled into the ways of war.

Our federal government has outlined a specific program whereby every man, woman, and child of the United States can help conserve wheat and meat. These are the key foods that must be used sparingly among us if the famished people abroad are to eat at all. We are asked, therefore, to abstain one day a week only, on Tuesdays, from such major meats as beef, veal, lamb, and pork. On Thursdays we are asked not to eat eggs. Every day of the week we should practice moderation at meals. If each of us will thus curb his appetite just a little and "lick his platter clean," the crisis will be weathered and a real contribution toward lasting peace assured.

Highlights OF THE MONTH

In the January issue of
NATIONAL PARENT-TEACHER: THE P.T.A. MAGAZINE

The Kiss and the Quandary

by Evelyn Millis Duvall and Martha Schilling

- When young people first start dating, scarcely a mother or father escapes the plague of anxiety. Going steady, petting, keeping late hours—all these are discussed with discernment and understanding by the authors of this fifth article in the current parent education study course.

Better Lives for All Our Children

5. *The Third Security—Creativeness*
by Bonaro W. Overstreet

- Are we psychologically enslaved even while we enjoy political and economic freedom? This is the query posed by Mrs. Overstreet when she discusses the importance of creativity in the lives of those who are truly free. And her comments are, as always, fraught with significant meaning for each of us.

Children's Radio Listening—Let's Face the Facts!

by Clara S. Logan

- Parents who are concerned about the type of radio programs presented for children's listening will welcome this article on the emotional effects of the crime and horror tales. In an effort to find out what leading pediatricians, sociologists, psychologists, and neuro-psychiatrists think about this subject, the Tenth District of the California Congress carried on its own survey. And the results are conclusive indeed!

The International Children's Emergency Fund at Work

by Katharine F. Lenroot

- Every parent-teacher member will want to read this heartening account of the International Children's Emergency Fund, which was established as a part of the United Nations in December 1946. Written by the United States representative on the executive board of the Fund, the article shows us not only what has been already achieved but how much more is yet to be done.

Character Training That Counts

by Vernon Jones

- What is character, anyway? How does it differ from morality and personality, for instance? These questions are answered in the January preschool study course article by an author who has done extensive research in the field of character education. His guides and cautions regarding reward and punishment are something no parent or teacher will want to miss.

AMERICAN OVERSEAS AID

United Nations Appeal for Children

DURING the month of February member agencies of American Overseas Aid—United Nations Appeal for Children will conduct a fund-raising campaign to raise \$60,000,000, which will help to ease the suffering of millions of war victims—especially children. The National Congress has adopted a resolution favoring aid to war-blighted countries (see page 2), and this appeal therefore deserves our fullest support. (The January issue of the *National Parent-Teacher* carries an article entitled "The International Children's Emergency Fund at Work," which explains the crucial needs of children in war-devastated areas.)

American Overseas Aid is a federation of voluntary relief service organizations, established as a means of supporting American foreign policy and supplementing the assistance already extended by government agencies. It was organized at President Truman's suggestion in answer to demands from leaders all over America for a unified channel through which overseas aid might be given. It has three aims:

- To determine the nature and extent of war-born needs of distressed peoples who cannot be aided by other means.

- To see that everyone has a chance to contribute to the funds needed to provide assistance.

- To channel the sums raised for member agencies' services wherever American help is needed most—enough and on time.

In other words, American Overseas Aid does not conduct any relief operations directly. Rather, it serves as a medium for financing the activities of the agencies that administrate the funds; it screens and coordinates activities to ensure sound and efficient operation; and it examines and audits the records of all expenditures.

Among the participating agencies are the International Children's Emergency Fund, the American Friends Service Committee, the Y.W.C.A. World Emergency Fund, and many other worthwhile relief groups. These agencies will be providing:

- Care for child victims of the war.
- Food and clothing for peoples in lands depopulated and devastated.
- Medicines and medical care for the suffering victims of war's aftermath.
- Shelter and assistance in starting life anew for thousands whose homes and belongings were swept away during the war.

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The purchase of subscriptions for use of P.T.A. members is considered a legitimate use of P.T.A. funds.

National Parent-Teacher
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Manners Must Be Taught

by Rhoda W. Bacmeister

- Do your children look forward to "company coming"? Or do they dread the event because it means a round of warnings and corrections in front of guests? Mrs. Bacmeister tells how to cultivate courtesy in our children, making good manners fun instead of a chore for all concerned.

Citizens Look at Education

- This progress report prepared by the Subcommittee on the Teacher in America, Citizens Federal Committee on Education, is an excellent résumé of the school situation as it now stands. Reprinted by permission of Commissioner John W. Studebaker, the report presents four tangible ways in which each of us can help to improve America's schools.